

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE

GOVERNOR



**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
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Governor Bev Perdue Inaugural Speech

Welcome.

Welcome to all of you.

It is a privilege to be here today.

With gratitude we salute my predecessor, Governor Mike Easley, for his years of service.

I want to thank so many of you. Especially my husband Bob Eaves-- North Carolina's first "First Gentleman." And, my two sons Emmett and Garrett who have been a part of this journey from my very first day of public life.

To all the family, friends, colleagues who have gathered for this celebration. I say-- there is simply nothing finer than to be in North Carolina.

Today a new administration begins, one that is different from any other. My presence before you represents a departure from our past.

It is a new beginning.